

Application No. 09/892048
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Request For Reconsideration

Claim 4 (original): The stent delivery catheter of claim 1 wherein the at least one radiopaque portion comprises one or more radiopaque band portions.

Claim 5 (Previously amended): The stent delivery catheter of claim 4 further wherein the stent has proximal and distal ends, and further wherein the one or more radiopaque band portions comprises two radiopaque band portions which are positioned so that they mark the proximal and distal ends of the stent.

Claim 7 (Currently amended): A stent delivery catheter comprising:

a catheter having a distal end, the catheter including a balloon near its distal end;
a stent mounted for delivery onto the balloon,
the balloon being made of a material, including at least one portion to of which ha had
a radiopaque ink has been applied.

Remarks

Examiner Thompson indicated in the advisory action that she "interprets the word 'includes' to mean that the balloon includes a radiopaque portion, **not that balloon is made up of a radiopaque portion**". (Emphasis added).

Applicant has amended claim 1 as invited by the examiner to require the latter interpretation, namely that the balloon material is made of at least one radiopaque portion. This is the interpretation applicant has been advocating all along should be given to the existing claim language and as now amended claims 1 and 3-5 are believed to be in condition for allowance.

Claim 7 has also been amended to affirmatively recite that the balloon is made of a material, at least one portion of which has had a radiopaque ink applied. This is believed to